

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has released grants totaling \$360 million for the Community Development Block Grant Program, or CDBG. Three local cities will receive funds totaling nearly \$1 million that were included in the Recovery Act that was signed into law in February.

"CDBG grants are an important tool in revitalizing communities that have been hurt by the economic downturn," said Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel). "These stimulus funds are a critical investment in speeding the recovery of local economy."

Local cities receiving CDBG grants:

- Salinas, \$663,180
- Santa Cruz, \$163,367
- Seaside, \$109,794

"Secretary Donovan's announcement of \$663,180 in Community Development Block Grant for Salinas will allow us to revitalize our neighborhoods by investing in infrastructure rehabilitation and job creation," said Salinas Mayor Dennis Donohue.

CDBG funds can be used for a variety of programs that help create suitable living environments, provide affordable housing and create economic opportunities. This group of grants represents more than half of CDBG funds approved in the Recovery Act.

"I am proud to announce this \$360 million in Community Development Block Grant funding to state and local governments throughout the country, which will create jobs and help to revitalize the nation's hardest hit neighborhoods," said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan. "President Obama and I are anxious to put this money to work for long-term, sustainable community and economic development."

Since 1974, CDBG has provided more than \$127 billion to state and local governments to target their own community development priorities. The rehabilitation of affordable housing and

the construction and improvement of public facilities have traditionally been the largest uses of CDBG funds, although the program is also an important catalyst for job growth and business opportunities.

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